right to determine and the source from which wages or salary are paid and a host of such circumstances, may have to be considered to determine the existences of the relationship of master and servant. In each case, it is question of fact whether a person is a servant of the State or not."

Candidates with criminal background in U.P. Assembly elections

†1574. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of candidate who were having criminal background had contested in the recently concluded Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the total number of such candidates in the said elections?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The Election Commission of India has informed that it has no information of any person who has been convicted and who attracts the provisions of section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, has contested as a candidate in the election.

News-item "Lawyer's licence suspended for duping client"

1575. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Lawyer's licence suspended for duping

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

client", which appeared in the Times of India, dated the 29th January, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether criminal case has been registered against the lawyer; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) With respect to the news-item captioned "Lawyer's licence suspended for duping client", which appeared in the Time of India dated 29.01.2002, the Bar Council of India has informed that the advocate, Ms. Debakie Rani Sharma has been suspended from the roll of advocates maintained by the Bar Council of Delhi for a period of two years, *vide* the Order of the Disciplinery Committee of the Bar Council of India, dated 25.11.2001 in D.C. appeal No. 33/2001 titled Smt. Savitri Devi *Vs* Ms. Debakie Rani Sharma. The Committee also ordered the respondent to pay cost of Rs. 5,000/- to the appellant.

(c) and (d) Bar Councils are only empowered to punish advocates for professional or other misconduct by reprimand, suspension or removal of their names from the rolls of advocates. It is open to the aggrieved party to seek other legal remedies, including prosecution of the advocate under criminal proceedings, at the appropriate fora.

Judges-population ratio in democratic countries

1576. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of judges per million population in the country is the lowest in comparison to other democratic countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and